

Aldo Tambellini biography

Aldo Tambellini, Filmmaker, video and Tele-communications artist

Born: Syracuse, New York, 1930

Education:

Art Institute, Lucca, Italy, 1941-46

Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York, B.F.A., 1950-54

Graduate School of Architecture and Allied Arts, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, 1955-56

Notre Dame University, Notre Dame, Indiana, M.F.A., 1957-59

Appointments:

Director, Pilot Program in Video, Harlem, New York, 1970-72

Visiting Artist, Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, 1976

Director, Media-Environmental Workshop, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, 1977

Fellow, Center for Advanced Visual Studies, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1976-

Awards and Honors:

New York State Council on the Arts, 1969

International Grand Prix, Oberhausen Film Festival, 1969

Experimental TV Lab, NET, New York State Council on the Arts, 1973

One-Man Exhibitions: (partial list)

Museum Wallraf-Richartz, Cologne, 1968

"Cineprobe," Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York, 1971

"From Film to Video," Anthology Film Archives, New York, New York, 1975

The Media Study Center, Buffalo, New York, 1976

Centerscreen Visiting Artist Series, Carpenter Center, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1977

"Two-Way Live," Boston Film and Video Foundation, Boston, Massachusetts, 1979

"Photography and Video Work," The Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, New York, 1980

Group Exhibitions: (partial list)

"Television as a Creative Medium," Howard Wise Gallery, New York, New York, 1969

"Black Gate Duesseldorf" (with Otto Piene, Duesseldorf, 1969

"A Special Video Show," Whitney Museum, New York, New York, 1971

"15 American Video Artists," Centre Culturel Americain, Paris, 1973

"Projekt '74," Koelnischer Kunstverein, Cologne, 1974

ARTTRANSITION, C.A.V.S./M.I.T., Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1975
"Centerbeam," C.A.V.S./M.I.T., documenta 6, Kassel, 1977
"Centerbeam" D.C., C.A.V.S./M.I.T., Washington, D.C., 1978
"Aesthetics and Technology," The Institute of Design, Offenbach am Main, 1978
International Biennial Exhibition of Graphic and Visual Art (C.A.V.S. documentation room),
Vienna, 1979

Events/Major Works:

Founded first electromedia theater in New York, New York, 1967
First videotape shown on ABC-TV News, 1967
"Black Gate Cologne" (with Otto Piene), WDR-TV, Germany, first national television broadcast by
artists, 1968
"The Medium is the Medium," (a.o., with Kaprow, Paik, Piene), WGBH/PBL/NET, 1968.
First picturephone two-way live event by artists, Illinois Bell Telephone, Chicago, Illinois, with
Sonia Sheridan, 1977
"Artists Use of Telecommunications, int'l event, slow scan, computer conference link,
C.A.V.S./M.I.T., 1980

Films: (partial list)

"Black Is" 1965
"Black Trip" 1965
"Blackout" 1965
"Black Plus X" 1966
"Black Trip 2" 1977
"Moonblack" 1969

Videotapes and Installations: (partial list)

"Black Video" 1967
"Black Video II" 1967
"Black Video 2" 1968
"Black TV" 1968
"Minus 1" 1969
"Black Spiral," installation, 1969
"Black" for "The Medium is the Medium," WGBH-TV, 1969
"Day Before the Moonlanding" 1969
"Aldo Tambellini: TV Media Pioneer," WNYE-TV, New York; 1971
Documentary of Italian-Americans (work in progress) 1970-
Series documenting Intermedia Performance - Automation House, New York, New York, 1971-72
"Atlantic in Brooklyn" 1971-72
"6673" 1973
"Clone" 1976
"Illinois Bell Picturephone System Event" 1977
"Sonesta Beach" 1979

"TV to TV" 1979

"March 27, 1980" 1980

"Artists' Use of Telecommunications" 1980

Aldo Tambellini: Telecommunication Events, System Design - 1977, 1979-1980

Illinois Bell Picturephone System

Aldo Tambellini with Sonia L. Sheridan and participants from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago - June 8, 1977

The Illinois Bell Telephone Company made two picturephone system locations available in Chicago for this event. Participants were members of a workshop on environmental media at the School of the Art Institute, Chicago.

Pacific Rim: Slow Scan, Vancouver Art Gallery - May, 1979

Aldo Tambellini and Antonio Muntadas, Center for Advanced Visual Studies, M.I.T., organized by Bill Bartlett, coordinator, Direct Media Association, Bender Island, British Columbia

A visual communication link between members of the PEASESAT users group in the Pacific - using the ATS-1 satellite (NASA). Participation in slow scan link connecting ATS-1 stations in Rarotanga (Cook Islands), Santa Cruz (California), Wellington (New Zealand) and Vancouver via the terminal at Simon Fraser University Communication Studies Department utilizing a telephone link.

Two-Way Live

Aldo Tambellini - Boston Film/ Video Foundation - May 19, 1979

Two-Way Live used a closed circuit television system - allowing audience participation - and consisting of video monitors two cameras, microphones and audio amplifier. Video and audio were exchanged between the two different locations - indoors and outdoors. Participants engaged in various forms of interpersonal communication.

TV to TV

The Communicationsphere group, Aldo Tambellini, coordinator, in cooperation with the Center for Advanced Visual Studies and Educational Video Resources, M.I.T. - December 14, 1979

M.I.T. has a bidirectional 300MHZ Bandwidth cable system, which distributes television campus-wide. When video and audio are assigned to a frequency between 0-108 MHZ and modulated on the cable it travels to the control center or hub of the system. A camera, microphone and audio amplifier at each location was coupled with modulators in this 0-108 MHZ range and the signals traveled to the control center where the frequencies were converted to the 175-300 MHZ range

which travel from the hub to everyone connected to the cable. This enabled both locations to see and hear each other.

-Skip Tenczar, M.I.T. Cable

SSTV - Cable and the Arts -M.I.T./Atlanta College of Art

The Communicationsphere group in cooperation with the Center for Advanced Visual Studies and Educational Video Resources - August 17, 1980

Center for Advanced Visual Studies - Kunstverein Hamburg

The Communicationsphere group in collaboration with artist Bernd Kracke as part of Kracke's installation "Translocation - Ornament der Masse" - October 19, 1980. The German part was executed by the group AG horizont and Steffen Wernery.

Artists' Use of Telecommunications

The Communicationsphere group in cooperation with the Center for Advanced Visual Studies, Educational Video Resources and the Architecture Machine Group, M.I.T., - February 16, 1980

Artists' Use of Telecommunications utilized a live international audio and video link. Communication was via standard telephone lines. Each location had two separate lines - one coupled to a computer terminal - the other to a slow scan transceiver (Robot 530). All computer terminal lines were connected to the I.P. Sharp Electronic Mail Service central computer in Toronto, Canada, which accommodated communication between all locations. The slow scan lines were linked to the Kellogg Conferencing Center in Denver, Colorado. Denver transmitted images to all locations. When one location sent slow scan images, all other locations received them.

-Skip Tenczar, M.I.T, Cable, Aldo Tambellini

Bartlett/Klinkowstein/Tambellini - Three Artists on Line in Three Countries

The Communicationsphere group in cooperation with the Center for Advanced Visual Studies, Educational Video Resources and the Architecture Machine Group - June 9, 1980

Each of the three locations used a Robot 530 slow scan transceiver coupled to a standard telephone line. The telephone service in Amsterdam, Holland provided the three-way conference link which enabled one location to talk or send slow scan, while the other two received.

Aldo Tambellini

The Age of Communicationsphere

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the electromagnetic spectrum is to be considered a "natural" resource for creative activity

...

new imaging systems are being invented new storage capabilities are being invented new delivery capabilities are being invented reality is being reinvented

...

the age of Communicationsphere brings art into a new parameter the age of Communicationsphere dissolves the line between life and art potentially the globe and solar system become a huge artifact and a big thought Communicationsphere creates a new electronic organism

...

Communicationsphere is the new environment its invisible processes take place through waves in the sky satellites - antennae and cables form a reality - affecting all social and human interaction as we have previously known it to be

...

the telecommunication media experience replaces and mediates the natural experience.

September 1980, M.I.T., Cambridge, Mass.